

Section 4 Che
Guevara, Ernesto (Che)

Grenade Is Thrown At Theater Complex Showing 'Che' Film

A hand grenade exploded early yesterday in front of a Yorkville movie theater complex where the controversial film "Che" is playing, resulting in slight injuries to three persons in a passing taxicab.

No one was in the building when the explosion occurred at 4 A.M. The complex includes Loew's Orpheum, 169 East 86th Street, and Loew's New Cine directly around the corner on Third Avenue, where "Che" is being shown.

The marquee on the Orpheum Theater lists both "Che" and its own showing of the film "Once Upon a Time in the West."

The grenade shattered six large windows of the Orpheum entrance. The flying glass caused minor cuts to three women who were in the taxicab. They received first-aid treatment at Lenox Hill Hospital and were released.

Damage was estimated at \$800 by the management.

The police found the handle of a hand grenade and small pellet marks at the scene. An investigation was started by the Fire Marshal's office, the police bomb squad and detectives of the East 104th Street station.

The police said they did not know if there was any evidence linking the explosion with the movie.

The film was the focus of demonstrations last week at its premiere at Loew's Warner Penthouse Theater, on Broadway near 47th Street. The film concerns the Latin-American revolutionary Ernesto Che Guevara and Fidel Castro.

Cuban Nationalists denounced the film while leftists expressed support.